

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,831,375 to Benson, and claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Benson in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,057,814 to Kalt. Claims 2-3 were allowed.

In accordance with this response, original claims 1-6 have been replaced by new claims 7-21. The specification has been revised to make grammatical, idiomatic and editorial revisions and to provide a direct antecedence basis for the claim language.

Applicant and applicant's attorney acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of original claims 2-3.

New independent claim 7 is a slightly broader version of allowed claim 2 and includes all of the limitations of claim 2 except for the values of $\Delta n_1 d_1 / \lambda$ and $\Delta n_2 d_2 / \lambda$, which values are recited in new claim 8. New claims 9-12 have been patterned after original claims 3-6, respectively. New claims 13-21 have been added to provide a fuller scope of coverage.

The present invention pertains to a self light emitting display device having a novel electroluminescent element (Figs. 1-3 and 9-10) and to a novel self light emitting display device that is foldable and equipped with

means for preventing transmission of electroluminescent light through one section of the foldable device when the device is in an unfolded state (Figs. 12-14).

Independent claim 7 is directed to a self light emitting display device having a self light emitting element sandwiched between first and second polarization layers, a first optical phase differential layer provided between the self light emitting element and the first polarization layer, a second optical phase differential layer provided between the self light emitting element and the second polarization layer, and specific relationships between the transmission axes of the polarization layers and the delay phase axis of the optical anisotropy of the first optical phase differential layer. The subject matter recited in claim 7 is neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record.

The primary reference to Benson discloses a self light emitting display device having a self light emitting element sandwiched between first and second polarization layers. However, Benson does not disclose the first and second optical phase differential and their relation to the first and second polarization layers recited in claim 7. It is clear, therefore, that Benson does not disclose, suggest or render obvious independent claim 7 and claims 8-12 which depend on claim 7.

In addition, the combined teachings of Benson and Kalt do not disclose or suggest the subject matter of dependent claims 7-12. As neither reference discloses optical phase differential layers, neither reference discloses the subject matter of dependent claims 8-9.

Dependent claim 11 includes the limitations that the self light emitting display device has a foldable structure and has a display portion closing mechanism automatically movable to opened and closed positions to unmask and mask a portion of a light emitting region of the self light emitting element in accordance with the folding state of the device. Claim 12 includes the limitation of a manually movable member for manually moving the display portion closing mechanism to the opened and closed positions. None of these limitations is disclosed by the prior art.

The Examiner has relied upon Kalt as purportedly teaching a foldable structure and a display portion closing mechanism which is automatically opened or closed in accordance with the folding state of the device. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Kalt pertains to electrostatic video display drive circuitry and displays, wherein the displays include spiral rollouts 20 embedded in a matrix layer 18, each spiral rollout 20 corresponding to one pixel. The spiral rollouts 20 move between coiled and uncoiled states depending

upon the applied voltage. One, some or all of the spiral rollouts 20 do not correspond to a display portion closing mechanism automatically movable to opened and closed positions in accordance with a folding state of the device such that the display portion closing mechanism is moved to the opened position when the device is in a folded state and is moved to the closed position when the device is in an unfolded state, as required by claim 11. Moreover, Kalt does not disclose a manually movable member for manually moving the display portion closing mechanism to the opened and closed positions, as required by claim 12.

New independent claim 13 is a broader version of claim 11 and is directed to a foldable device having an electroluminescent display, the device comprising two sections foldably connect together and having a folded state in which the two sections overlap one another (Fig. 12) and an unfolded state in which the two sections do not overlap one another (Fig. 13). Claim 13 further recites an electroluminescent element disposed in one of the sections for emitting and transmitting light through a side of the one section, and a privacy device for automatically preventing transmission of the light through the side of the one section when the two sections are in the unfolded state (Fig. 13) and permitting transmission of the light through the one

side when the two sections are in the folded state (Fig. 12). No similar devices disclosed or suggested by Benson and Kalt.

Benson contains no disclosure at all concerning an electroluminescent display device having means for preventing and permitting transmission of light in dependence on the folded or unfolded state of a device. Likewise, Kalt contains no disclosure of any means for preventing or permitting transmission of light depending on the folded or unfolded state of a device. The spiral rollouts 20 of Kalt correspond to individual pixels of the display and not to the folded or unfolded state of the overall device.

Dependent claims 14-18 define further features of the privacy device including, in claims 16 and 18, the recitation that the privacy device comprises a shutter having opaque and transparent portions for blocking and permitting transmission of light. No such structure is disclosed by Kalt.

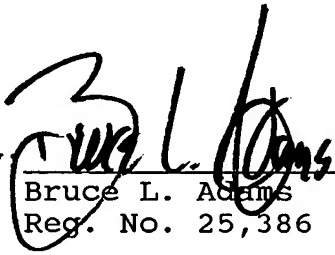
Dependent claims 19-21 recite the subject matter of claims 7-9, respectively, and are separately patentable for the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 7-9.

In view of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in allowable form. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 19, 2005

Date